

**DOCKET NO.:** ASTB-0055

**Application No.:** 10/589,789

**Preliminary Amendment - First Action Not Yet Received**

**PATENT**

**REMARKS**

Early consideration and allowance of the above-referenced patent application is respectfully requested.

The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. No new matter has been entered. None of the amendments change the scope of any claim, nor are any amendments submitted for reasons of patentability.

Date: February 1, 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael P. Dunnam", is written over a horizontal line.

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